

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/654,552

Examiner

Vikansha S. Dwivedi

Applicant(s)

MYERS ET AL.

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## -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 02/09/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

### Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

***Reasons for Allowance***

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The objection to the abstract set forth by the examiner in the office action mailed on 1/26/2006 has been obviated by the amendment thereto.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art neither discloses nor makes obvious the combination set forth in the claims by not disclosing an apparatus for combining strainer, sight glass and orifice functions into a single component inserted in an oil separation system located on the discharge side of a compressor, comprising: a sight glass block manifold that has a central sight glass section comprising a sight glass aperture that extends partly through the manifold with a heat-sealed glass disc that functions as a sight glass; and that has an "O"-ring port that is larger than required by a connecting line and a strainer fitting that is threaded into the manifold, with the strainer screen incorporated inside the manifold; that has an internal threaded section that accepts a mating threaded orifice insert and an "O"-ring type fitting in fluidic communication with the orifice insert.

The closest prior art, Hurner E. (US Patent number US 5,776,332), discloses a fuel treating system, which has a fuel treating apparatus 10 (Figure 1), a fuel inlet 22 (Figure 1), a fuel outlet 28 (Figure 1). The filter support head 12 as shown in Figure 1 has a unitary block structure, the filter support head 12 houses a filter 5 (Shown in Figure 2). It further has a conduit means 42 that is in communication with the inlet. It also discloses an o-ring that seals the conduit means within the chamber. Hurner E. does not disclose or provide motivation to combine the functions of a sight glass, filter

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and an orifice into a single component. The sight glass section and the strainer are not in fluidic communication with the inlet and the outlet ports.

The prior art discloses an inlet port an outlet port and a sight glass. The inlet and outlet port are located below the sight glass rather than *“an inlet port section above the sight glass section that comprises an inlet port in fluidic communication with the sight glass aperture”* and *“an outlet port section below the sight glass section that comprises an outlet port in fluidic communication with both the sight glass aperture and the inlet port”*. Figure 2 gives a cross section view of the inlet and outlet with regard to the sight glass and the filter. It would not have been obvious to relocate the inlet port to position it above the sight glass because the inlet and the outlet port have the same axis as shown in figure 1 and hence the inlet will interfere with the outlet. To place the inlet and outlet in relation to the sight glass as suggested by the applicant requires redesigning the whole apparatus and would not be obvious from the prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vikansha S. Dwivedi whose telephone number is 571-272-7834. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 8-4.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Timothy S. Thorpe can be reached on 571-272-4444. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

VSD

  
TAE JUN KIM  
PRIMARY EXAMINER